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3 **CLAIMS**
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5 **What is claimed is:**
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7 1. A dried minced or ground meat product, comprising:
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9 a cut or slice of a piece of a minced or a ground meat is
10 dried using heat means for drying, removing fat, and removing
11 moisture from said piece of minced or ground meat, said dried
12 piece of minced or ground meat having a substantially lower
13 fat and water content than said minced or ground meat; said
14 dried piece of minced or dried meat being consumable alone or
15 in combination with other food products.
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17 2. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
18 wherein said dried piece of minced or ground meat is
19 configured as a chip.
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21 3. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
22 wherein said dried piece of minced or ground meat is
23 configured as a stick.
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25 4. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
26 wherein said piece of minced or ground meat is pepperoni.
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1 5. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
2 wherein said minced or ground meat is salami.

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4 6. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
5 wherein said minced or ground meat is a sausage.

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7 7. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
8 wherein said heat means for drying said piece of said minced
9 or ground meat is a microwave oven.

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11 8. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
12 wherein said heat means for drying said piece of said minced
13 or ground meat is a gas heated oven.

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15 9. The dried minced or ground meat product of claim 1,
16 wherein said heat means for drying said piece of said minced
17 or ground meat is an electric oven.

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19 10. A method of making a dried minced or ground meat product,
20 comprising:

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22 preparing a piece of minced or ground meat from sausage,
23 salami, or pepperoni, and

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25 cooking said piece of minced or ground meat until a
26 substantial percentage of fat is removed form said minced or

1 ground meat piece and said piece of minced or ground meat is
2 substantially dry.

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4 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said piece of minced or
5 ground meat is configured as a chip.

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7 12. The method of claim 10, wherein said piece of minced or
8 ground meat is configured as a stick.

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10 13. The method of claim 10, further including adding spices
11 to said dried piece of minced or ground meat.

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13 14. The method of claim 10, further including adding salt to
14 said dried piece of minced or ground meat.

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